

such testing will not result in discrimination against a woman. I fought for 13 years to pass the Genetic Information Non-Discrimination Act (GINA) so that anyone could choose to find out their genetic disposition for illness, without fear of discrimination. Since GINA became law, no health insurer can raise an individual's rates and no employer can make hiring or firing decisions based on genetic information.

Unfortunately, even though a woman is diagnosed with breast cancer every two minutes in the United States, screening rates for this dangerous disease are declining. A recent study found that out of 1.5 million women over the age of 40 with health insurance, less than half had received the recommended annual screening.

As we celebrate Breast Cancer Awareness Month, it's important that all women know that affordable screening options are available.

Screening tests can find breast cancer early, when it is most treatable. They are the best way to lower the risk of dying from breast cancer. The 5-year survival rate for breast cancer caught early is 98 percent, compared to 23 percent when it is not.

I encourage women to take care of themselves in every possible way, and to make a renewed commitment to following the recommended screening guidelines for breast cancer. Together, we can take the important steps necessary to win the fight against breast cancer.

#### REMEMBERING DAN WHELDON

### HON. ANDRÉ CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 25, 2011*

Mr. CARSON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, on Sunday, October 16, race fans everywhere mourned the tragic loss of Dan Wheldon from injuries suffered at the Las Vegas Indy 300.

Though he was only 33 years old, Wheldon was highly-accomplished within the Indy Racing League.

In 2003, Wheldon received the Indy Racing League's prestigious Rookie of the Year Award, which he followed up by winning the Indianapolis 500 in 2005 and 2011.

Dan Wheldon was an incredible ambassador for the sport and the Indianapolis 500, the largest sporting event in the world, which is located in my District at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway. His loss will be felt on and off the track.

My deepest sympathies go to his wife, Susie, his two sons, Sebastian and Oliver, his family, his friends, and to the legion of fans around the world who are mourning his passing. Dan Wheldon's memory will remain in the hearts of race fans everywhere, and his achievements will never be forgotten at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway.

HONORING SCCOG FOR 50 YEARS  
OF ADVOCATING FOR SOUTH-  
EASTERN CONNECTICUT

### HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 25, 2011*

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Southeastern Connecticut Council of Governments (SCCOG) for providing 50 years of intergovernmental service to the people of Southeastern Connecticut.

SCCOG's origins date back to 1961, with the founding of Southeastern Connecticut Regional Planning Agency (SCRPA) as one of the one of the first regional planning agencies in Connecticut at the time. The agency transitioned to SCCOG in 1993, and today serves 20 member municipalities and counts as non-voting affiliate members two federally recognized Native American Tribes, and has liaisons from the United States Naval Submarine Base and the United States Coast Guard Academy.

Under the leadership of James Butler, the Southeastern Connecticut Council of Governments ensures the various governments participating in the group have a platform for co-operation and organization on a diverse array of issues. They act as the Metropolitan Planning Organization for the region, budgeting for and implementing essential and transformative transportation projects. SCCOG has played a vital role in many of the region's top infrastructure priorities and support for Naval Submarine Base New London.

By providing services to over 240,000 people, the Southeastern Connecticut Council of Governments has established itself as the second largest regional planning organization in Connecticut. For 50 years, the group has been influential in the planning of countless housing, technical, economic development, and emergency management projects in the SE CT region.

Having worked with SCCOG closely on a number of regional priorities, I know firsthand the tremendous value it provides to decision makers, local communities and the vitality of this unique part of our state. With the challenges before our state and the region, coordination through groups like the Southeastern Connecticut Council of Governments serves as the backbone of strong communities across the nation. By combining strong planning foresight with a commitment to inclusion, SCCOG has contributed to building Southeastern Connecticut into a unified, burgeoning region.

I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring SCCOG for 50 years of service to southeastern Connecticut.

HONORING MR. THOMAS C. GAGEN

### HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 25, 2011*

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Thomas C. Gagen for his work and contributions towards improving the accessibility and affordability of health care to those living in the Sacramento region. For over a decade, Tom has served as the Chief Execu-

tive Officer of the Sutter Medical Center in Sacramento (SMCS) and during that time he has been an outstanding civic leader. As Tom retires, I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking him for his service and leadership in our community.

After graduating from Purdue University, Tom went to Cleveland State University to receive his Masters in Business Administration. Before coming to Sacramento in 2000, Tom was a leader at a number of health care facilities, including the Carondelet Health Network in Tucson and then Scripps Health in San Diego, where he served as Senior Vice President. Throughout Tom's decade long tenure, he helped Sutter General Hospital and Sutter Memorial Hospital grow into one of Sacramento's largest not-for-profit organizations. During Tom's career leading SMCS, it was twice named as one of the top 100 hospitals in the nation and it received the Sutter Health's President's Award for patient satisfaction. Tom played a key role in improving care at SMCS and across the Sutter Health system as a key member of Sutter's Blue Ribbon Team on Quality.

Under Tom's vision SMCS has shown incredible support of the community, donating over \$20 million to dozens of local non-profit organizations. Tom served as the first chairman of Sacramento's 10-Year Plan to End Homelessness and has always worked to bring social services to the neediest. For his work with the homeless, Tom was the recipient of Cottage Housing's 2011 Beacon of Hope Award. Tom was also named the Sacramento Chamber of Commerce's 2008 Businessman of the Year, in part for his involvement with the Sutter's "Triage, Transport and Treatment" program, which addresses the needs of frequent emergency room visits by the uninsured.

Since being elected to Congress, I have come to know Tom as an incredibly intelligent and forward thinking leader. He cares deeply about improving the quality and access to health care in the Sacramento region and he cares just as much about our community. As he retires, Tom leaves a true legacy of accomplishments that will be felt in Sacramento for generations.

Mr. Speaker, as Tom, his wife Pat and their friends gather to celebrate his retirement, I ask that my colleagues join me in thanking and recognizing him for his many years of service. Tom has contributed an immense amount to making Sacramento a better place to live, work and raise a family.

IN RECOGNITION OF GINA  
BARTLOW ON BEING NAMED  
ANCOR'S 2011 DIRECT SUPPORT  
PROFESSIONAL OF THE YEAR

### HON. FRANK C. GUINTA

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 25, 2011*

Mr. GUINTA. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I congratulate Gina Bartlow on being named ANCOR's 2011 Direct Support Professional of the Year. It is truly a prestigious honor to be considered as the best in your field and this recognition demonstrates Gina's compassion and commitment, as well as all the hard work she does for those with disabilities.